



PATENT
Docket No. 81880.0049
(Former Docket No. 000247-D7118)

RECEIVED
JUL -5 2001

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
KOBAYASHI, Yoshihiro, et al.

Serial No: 09/201,260

Filed: November 30, 1998

For: ZIRCONIUM CERAMIC MATERIAL,
OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTOR
MEMBER USING THE SAME, AND
METHOD OF PRODUCING THE
SAME

Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Stafira, M.

11/16/01
G. S. only
7-16-01

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being deposited with the United States
Postal Service with sufficient postage as
first class mail in an envelope addressed
to:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231, on

June 18, 2001

Date of Deposit

Lawrence J. McClure

Name

Signature

June 18, 2001

Date

AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 16, 2001, the time for
response to which is extended 1 (one) month by the accompanying petition from
May 16, 2001 to June 16, 2001 (a Saturday), please amend the above-referenced
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the text of claims 1, 2, 3 and 10 with the following text:

1. (Amended) A zirconia based ceramics, containing ZrO_2 as a main
component, 2-4 mol% of Y_2O_3 , 0.05-1.0 wt% of Al_2O_3 , and 0.1 wt% or less each of
 SiO_2 , TiO_2 , CaO , Na_2O and Fe_2O_3 .